Features
Looking to get involved?
Take a look at the map of the Student Club Fair on **page 8**

Arts & Entertainment
Spotlight on summer research
Palmer '18 describes his documentary on mass incarceration **page 10**

Opinion
Solidarity not separation
Meade '20 discusses the stigmatization of mental health on campus **page 10**

The Spectator

Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017
Volume LVIII
Number 1

Getting to know Vice President and Dean of Students Terry Martinez

by Madeleine Maher '18
Editor-in-Chief

On Aug. 1, Hamilton College named Theresa "Terry" Martinez as the Vice President and Dean of Students. No stranger to student affairs, Martinez served as the Associate Vice Provost and Dean of Students at Johns Hopkins University, the interim Dean of Students at Columbia University and the Dean of Multicultural Affairs at Ithaca College before arriving on the Hill. In this interview, we get a glimpse at both the personal and professional sides of Dean Martinez, discussing her return to upstate New York, her plans for student engagement at Hamilton and her areas of focus for the fall semester.

THE SPECTATOR: *So, we just really want to get to know you a little bit both personally and as our Dean of Students. Would you like to tell us a bit about your family and your experience moving back to upstate New York?*

Terry Martinez: It is exactly one month ago on September 1 that I will have arrived here on campus. Right now, I am living at the end of Campus Road by the ball fields in the duplex there with my little dog who you'll see around campus quite often. My husband lives in New York, and we have had a long distance relationship for a very long time. He lives in Aurora, New York, which is in the Finger Lakes area, so about two hours away from here. The commute used to be much longer than that, so I'm glad that we get to see each other every weekend now! I also have a son who's 29, and he lives in Ithaca.

Is having family up here what drew you back to this region?

Hamilton College did. I was at Johns Hopkins before that and wasn't looking anywhere. This opportunity came up, and I started to talk with folks about the campus and the college, and I came to see it and met with people, and I got really excited about the work and the position. I was really excited to come home. I grew up in New York City, but I lived up here for many years, so I consider upstate New York my home.

What is your favorite Hamilton quirk or tradition that you have encountered so far?

Only having been here with students for two weeks now, or not even, I haven't seen much yet. But I loved Matriculation because I got to meet every single first year student. I look forward to experiencing the rest of [the traditions], but I don't really even know what they are. Sure, I've read the books and read the brochure and seen them online, but to just really experience them is what I'm looking forward to.

What's the most memorable piece of advice you received as a student?

Try everything. When it came to courses, explore things that you wouldn't normally study. For extracurriculars, do something that you wouldn't normally do, and talk with people who are so unlike you. Really try new things. That's how I met some of my best friends, that's how I switched my major. Break out of patterns.

Which student life issues have been brought to your attention the most since you've arrived on campus?

As I take a look at where I want to focus my energy on campus, I always take a look at three different things: to make sure that we create a healthy and safe campus, to make sure that our campus is not just diverse, but also inclusive of that diversity and to think about how life outside of the classroom matters to students. I want to really create meaningful opportunities for engagement. It's always those three things. There could be different issues that I'm addressing or working through, but they all fall into one of those three buckets. So, as I take a look at the campus environment, there are some issues that have been brought to my attention that I'll continue to explore this year. One is dangerous drinking behavior. Not just alcohol and drinking because you'll find that on any college campus, but the dangerous drinking behavior that causes students

PHOTO BY MADELEINE MAHER '18

Martinez arrives at Hamilton College with over 25 years of leadership experience.

to make bad decisions about themselves and about others that compromises the health and safety that I talked about. The second is with respect to sexual misconduct on campus. I want to make sure that our processes are following best practices, that students feel supported through that process, whether they be a respondent or a complainant, and that we're doing some good education around that for our students. And then the third is diversity and inclusion. We have the most diverse first year class on campus, and the campus is changing in many ways, from student experience to faculty and staff experience.

see *New Vice President*, page 2

Common Ground initiative to address partisanship on campus

by Sarah Salimi '20
News Editor

PHOTO BY JAY GODWIN, LBJ LIBRARY

Democratic and Republican analysts to discuss key policy issues.

In one campus-wide email, President Wippman touched on the fissures generated by the current political climate, stressing the need for community-wide dialogue through the form of the "Common Ground" Initiative. This program intends to bring speakers of opposing viewpoints together into a moderated discussion, attempting to create some kind of common understanding among both speakers and audience members.

This program, which will be spearheaded by the College Events and Scheduling Office, has received special funding as a pilot-program. The first installment of this series, slated for October 18, will bring together Republican Karl Rove and Democrat David Axelrod in a dialogue moderated by Susan Page of *USA Today*. Both Rove and Axelrod are political advisors and analysts, in addition to being bestselling authors and columnists. Rove served as former Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to President George W. Bush, while Axelrod functioned as Chief Strategist for President Obama's presidential campaigns, in addition to filling the position of Senior Advisor to the President.

This event has a projected turnout of 3,000 attendees, and due to its size, will be held in the fieldhouse. A similar event will follow in the spring. Based on the success of this pilot program, the administration may create an endowment to make Common Ground a continuing series. Students who have suggestions for future speakers may contact Lisa Magnarelli.

Although bringing together speakers from divergent sides of the political spectrum, the Common Ground series is not meant to generate debate, but rather respectful conversation. President Wippman hopes for the speakers to "genuinely... engage with each other's views, and...acknowledge weaknesses in their own positions and strengths in opposing positions." While not suggesting that "all views are equally valid," a main purpose of these talks is teaching students to concede the legitimacy of their peers' political perspectives, especially when they are different from their own. According to President Wippman, these talks will model the kind of "respectful dialogue across political boundaries that should occur not just on college campuses, but in the broader society as well." While such discussions already exist on campus, this program is intended to "complement" and "extend" them.

The topics of these discussions are expected to be polarizing, which makes maintaining respectful communication all the more crucial. President Wippman acknowledges that "we [the administration] expect that the topics to be covered in each program will vary with the expertise and interests of the speakers and with what is happening in the world at the time of the program." He predicts, however, that certain topics such as race, religion, immigration, climate change, health care, free trade, tax reform, free speech and terrorism will likely

see *Common Ground*, page 2

New Vice President set to focus on inclusion and diversity

*from **Vice President**, page 1*

I think that's wonderful because I think that we learn from people who have different perspectives, but I want to make sure that, in particular, the student experience is a good one. Because there's information that demonstrates, and not just here at Hamilton, but across the nation, that on many historically predominantly white campuses, the underrepresented minority experience is vastly different and not as positive. Sometimes, you can have a vastly different experience and say "mine isn't like the others, and this is great!" but they're not always as positive. So, we have to ask ourselves 'how do we make sure that students have a good experience and feel like they're a part of the community, however they define that community for themselves?' And that they feel a sense of community.

At every school, students work really hard to be heard by the administration, and it tends to be a highly discussed topic amongst students. Do you have any plans for facilitating effective communication between students and administrators?

My reputation is for connecting with students. I don't feel that I can be a Dean of Students if I don't know the student body. So in the past I've done a few things to cause intentionality in my connections with students, and I am taking a look at what's going to work here. I plan on being in the dining hall for dinner twice a week with students, and there for lunch as often as I can. I just came back from lunch, and while I was there I plopped myself down next to some students and had a great conversation with them. I went over and introduced myself to the Men's Hockey team and the hockey coach and talked with them for a few minutes. And I think it's that engagement with the community that's really important. Also, I want to not only extend welcome but to presume welcome. That's really important. I said when I met with the RAs and the Pre Orientation leaders, 'invite me to things. Let me know if there's a production or a sporting event or even if you're just presenting in class and you need moral support. Just invite me and I'll be there.' And then I had a student say 'Oh, we're having an a cappella concert one of the first nights,' and I went and got to enjoy that. And, in addition, in the next couple months or so, I'll be moving to a house on campus that has a lot of space, and my goal is to invite students into my home for things like dinner, receptions, dessert so that I can get to talk with students and really find out what their experiences are. I also have an Instagram account and a Twitter account, and in the past I have sent out tweets of places where students can find me and connect with me. So I'll tweet something like 'Hey I'm going to Opus, and I'll buy coffee for the first five people that approach me!" or whatever it is. That's the way that I will try to connect with students, and that replicates some things i've done in the past. But I also need to find what works at Hamilton as well, so there might be some other things that I don't know yet!

I saw that, at Johns Hopkins, you divided the Student Life office up into four departments: Community Living, Diversity and Inclusion, Health and Wellness and Student Engagement. Do you have any plans to reorganize our system here at Hamilton?

I'm still looking, and I think that, at Hopkins, that system worked to cover all the areas that fell within my purview. I had 14 different units that reported to me, so essentially, I supervised just about every single area outside the classroom that didn't have an academic componentx. And as I think about the work there and how staff members collaborated, it made sense to organize it in that way. So what I will do is just take a look at how people collaborate, where there are some natural collaborations, if they're intentional, and really decide what that will look like. We have some of those areas already in place; Residential Life, Dean Landry who oversees Health and Safety, Multicultural Affairs and Student Support, so I just need to think about whether I need to do anything about it or not. It may take a bit to really understand the work around that. And, again, if there would be any reorganization it would be to make sure that there are intentional collaborations, communications and partnerships around the student experience.

Hamilton's putting on the "Common Ground" speaking event, and there's so much talk about free speech and the treatment of those with differing views across the nation, not just on college campuses. Does the Student Life office have any ideas for how to approach these subjects?

I value free speech, even if I don't agree with what's being said, and I know that that's what the "Common Ground" is intending to do; to bring different perspectives to the table in respectful ways. I think that what's happening nationally is that we are talking at each other and not to each other. We're not even hearing. So I think it's important for us to have conversations about how we listen, how we hear, what we listen to and how we filter out noise for real conversation. I don't want to give white supremacy a platform, but it's important for me to know what they're saying. So, it's challenging, and as a nation we haven't figured it out, and I think college campuses are also grappling with it.

Lastly, as every student is asked when they first get to campus, do you have a fun fact about yourself that you'd like to share?

I actually think that I'm one of the funniest people I know.

I could see that! I get that vibe.

I'm very professional right now, but I'm probably one of the funniest people I know! What piece of advice do you have for me as I start my journey here?

Good question! I think just making as many face-to-face connections as you can, which it sounds like you're already planning on doing. I know that it makes a huge difference when you can put a face to a name and can feel comfortable approaching someone. Establishing that human connection will be huge.

Thank you for your time!

Common Ground initiative to address partisanship on campus

*from **Common Ground**, page 1*

be on the agenda.

No matter how heated debate becomes, it is important to recognize that such tensions are crucial to challenging the extant paradigms students hold, and should therefore be viewed as educational opportunities. Although uncomfortable, this friction will challenge students to "confront new ideas and consider other perspectives" and to push beyond intellectual complacency. While acknowledging that sensitive issues need to be addressed with a certain delicacy, President Wippman holds that "we [the community] should not see respectful dialogue...as in conflict with the goal of...fostering a supportive campus environment for all of our students."

Ultimately, the Common Ground Initiative is intended to bring healing and clarity to the community in the wake of unprecedented and daunting political events and rhetoric.

"It's hard not to view recent events with alarm. But how we move forward is up to us," writes President Wippman; as such he reminds students that, rather than being passive, they should recognize that they have the ability to ameliorate the current situation through the discourses they choose to generate. Above all, students must learn to respond in an intelligent, informed, and empathetic manner to their opponents, no matter how provoked they may feel; this level of maturity will be crucial in enabling different political factions to work with—rather than against—one another.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Sarah Salimi '20
News Editor

Bowdoin College relocates confederate plaque post-Charlottesville

A 1965 plaque in memoriam of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Bowdoin alumni who fought for the Confederacy was moved from the college's Memorial Hall to the library. Explaining the rationale behind this decision, Bowdoin's President Clayton Rose stated that the plaque was emblematic of a "horrible ideology" that was "not meant for a place designed to honor courage, principle and freedom." Students and members of the surrounding Brunswick area have mixed opinions, both for and against this change.

Colby sophomore launches application for relief in Houston

Amidst the destructive storm in Houston, Colby College student Nile Dixon '20 launched a helpful tool for his fellow Houstonians struggling to keep safe during Hurricane Harvey. A textbot, a simple means of sending computer-generated text messages across specific geographic locations, was Dixon's brain-child. The bot sent messages during the storm to help people find the nearest hurricane shelters. The start of Nile's sophomore year has been postponed by Hurricane Harvey.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Root Farm House demolished to begin construction on new Health and Counseling Centers

by Melanie Snyder '19
News Editor

Over the summer, the Root Farm House demolition took place in preparation for a new construction project. The new Health Services and Student Counseling Facility will stand in place of the old farm house on College Hill Road. Construction of the new building is underway.

According to Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning, Steve Bellona, the construction for the building is a single phase project. Currently, the contractor is removing soil so as to prepare for installation of the building's foundation.

Once the foundation is completed, the team will begin moving vertically with the steel construction of the building. As part of the new building's contsruction, eight wells for the geothermal system were installed as well.

In addition to the removal of the Farm House, several other projects were both started and completetd this summer.

Currently, the construction of the Health Services and Student Counciling Facility is the largest project taking place on campus.

"We finished up a robust summer construction effort between May and the start of the academic year," said Bellona.

These included: the completion of the renovation to Root Residence Hall, including a new heating system, kitchenettes, bathrooms and new windows. Works were also completed in both South and Babbitt Residence Halls. Pritchard Track was also replaced with a new running surface.

Additionally, the roofs on Beinecke, Little Pub, the Events Barn, Benedict Hall, AICC and the Days-Massolo were completeted. Replacment of the roofs on Roger's Estate and the diner are in progress.

In Bundy East and Bundy Dining Hall, the eletrical system was upgraded. Furthermore, a myriad of other smaller maintence and renewal efforts with campus building and the underground utility system took place. More specifically, the eletrical infrastrucute and storm and sanitary sewers.

The completion of the health services and student counseling building should be in July of 2018.

"Your patience and assistance is most appreiciated as we prepare our facilities for the start of the fall semester" says Bellona.

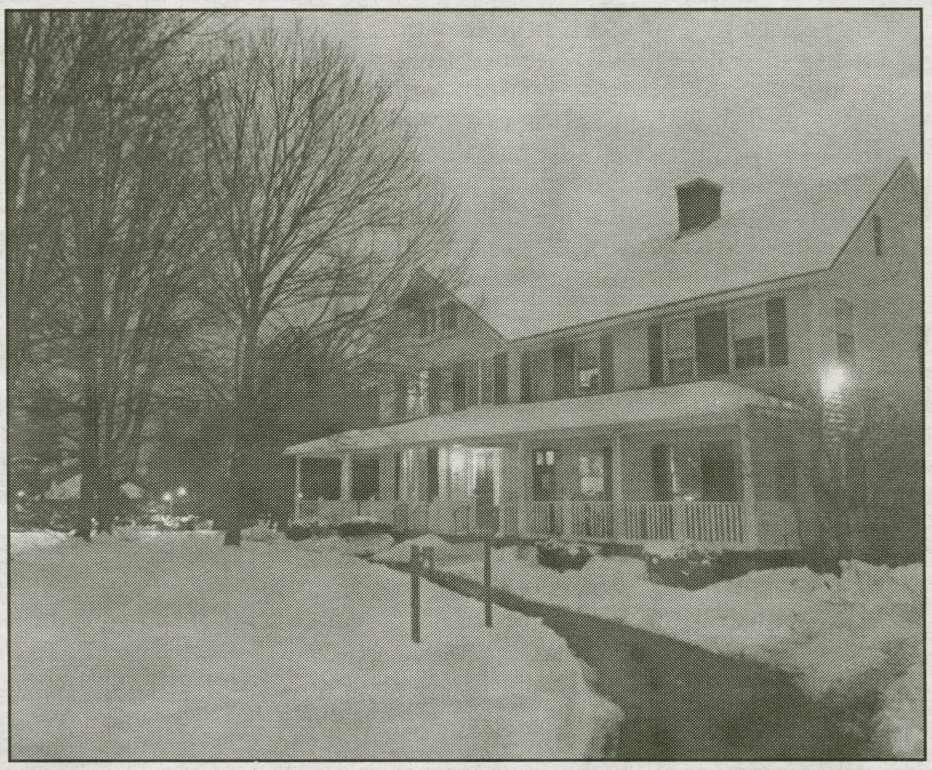

PHOTO BY ALEX BRANTL '18

Root Farmouse will be replaced by the new Health Services and Student Counseling facility.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Aug. 21

1:10 A.M. Faculty Lot Towing – South Campus
10:26 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
1:19 P.M. Smoke Detector – McIntosh Hall
9:04 P.M. Vehicle Alarm – North Lot
10:55 P.M. Fire Alarm – McIntosh Hall

Aug. 22

1:04 A.M. Noise Complaint – Major Hall
1:32 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident – Sadove Student Center
1:58 P.M. Smoke Detector – Skenandoa House
2:48 P.M. Medical Emergency – Taylor Science Center
4:42 P.M. Check Welfare – Residence Hall
8:17 P.M. Mechanical Issue – 20 College Hill Rd
8:17 P.M. Unlawful Possession of Marijuana/Paraphernalia – North Lot

Aug. 23

5:09 P.M. Smoke Detector – Kirkland Hall
7:05 P.M. Larceny Complaint – Off Campus

Aug. 24

6:50 A.M. Mechanical Issue – Dunham Hall

Aug. 25

5:39 A.M. Parking Complaint – Commons Dining
7:46 A.M. Fire Alarm – 1 Anderson Rd
9:19 A.M. Smoke Detector – Milbank Hall
2:22 P.M. Unauthorized Party – Eells House
2:23 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Chapel
3:38 P.M. Disorderly Conduct – Eells House
4:45 P.M. Medical Emergency – Fieldhouse
4:59 P.M. Reckless Driving – South Campus
5:05 P.M. Smoke Detector – Babbitt Hall
5:56 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
6:52 P.M. Medical Emergency – Emerson Lobby
7:12 P.M. Disorderly Conduct – Blood Fitness
7:56 P.M. Fire Alarm – Carnegie Hall
10:51 P.M. Smoke Detector – Eells House
11:23 P.M. Unauthorized Entry – Bundy Dining Hall

Aug. 26

12:45 A.M. Marijuana Complaint – Babbitt Hall (Exterior)
5:35 P.M. Larceny – Root Glen
5:43 P.M. Area Check – Dunham Quad
10:21 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Aug. 27

12:09 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
1:27 A.M. Criminal Mischief – Milbank Hall
2:18 A.M. Medical Emergency – Visitors Lot
7:28 A.M. Criminal Mischief – Kirner Johnson
12:30 P.M. Area Check – Skenandoa Lot

Left, Right & Center

In an age of stark political polarity and charged news sources that tug at both ends of the political spectrum, *The Spectator* realizes its responsibility to remain a nonpartisan publication. Editors understand that their job is not to exclusively publish pieces with which they agree, but rather to edit all articles in a way that preserves and most successfully conveys the author's opinion. With a genuine desire to enhance our campus's quality of college journalism, we seek to represent the broad range of opinions that work to make Hamilton unique.

In this spirit of free speech and debate, President Wippman recently announced Common Ground; a conversation between Karl Rove and David Axelrod, political polar opposites who served as Senior Advisor for Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, respectively. This event is designed to facilitate respectful dialogue across political lines, and we encourage students to use *The Spectator* as a space to continue such engagement.

Despite media representations of colleges as progressive bastions with no tolerance for conservatives, this is not and cannot be the reality at Hamilton. College is a place for intellectual growth. This growth requires interacting with and challenging the ideas with which we vehemently disagree. *The Spectator* Editorial Board is therefore committed to encouraging this growth through the promotion of opinions from conservatives, liberals and those across the political spectrum.

As a new semester commences, *The Spectator* staff looks forward to publishing pieces from the Left, Right and Center. In order to achieve this goal, we are formally requesting opinions from those who believe their views may fall outside of the norms of the Hamilton bubble. In the pursuit of free speech, debate and intellectual growth, let us hear from those who challenge our notions of normal on the Hill.

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

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***The Spectator* is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board. A volunteer staff of students handles all aspects of the weekly publication. The purpose of the newspaper is to provide the Hamilton Community with an honest, fair, timely and high-quality publication.**

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Celebrating 170 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

Buddha knows best: Charlottesville demonstrates need for a peaceful approach to hate

by Peter Yang '20
Staff writer

The past summer has been tumultuous to say the least. As I travelled outside the United States, I woke up every morning hoping that I would not hear about more violent clashes when I checked out the news. I was, however, frequently disappointed. Ever since the events in Charlottesville in mid-August that resulted in death of a protester, I have observed an explosion in extreme opinions that seem to dominate the public forums. Comments from President Trump failed to lessen the rising tension, instead sparking more fire and fury in an already-heated conversation. After I returned to the US, I felt this tension hovering above my head like a dark cloud.

In these troubled times, we face new challenges. I was happy to hear President Wippman address these challenges in his convocation speech; the speech showed both that our institution is aware of the current political climate and that we have an ability to influence it.

Recent events shocked us because they exposed us to the ugliest aspects of our country, many of which stemmed from a general sentiment of intolerance and hate. Many activists, including Heather Heyer—who lost her life in Charlottesville—stood up to fight against intolerance. Counter-protestors stood against neo-Nazis and white nationalists in the streets, remaining committed despite facing groups that were armed and aggressive.

Although I admire the counter-protesters determination and courage to stand against the tide of hate, I do not agree with those who chose to use violence. I believe that fighting fire with fire is not only ineffective but also dangerous to everyone involved. Some might think it is reasonable to use an aggressive approach when combating the most despicable bigots, as they see it as showing strength and determination. Rallies like these are a form of intimidation, after all, similar to a military parade, and are intended to scare off the opponents with an overwhelming sense of conviction and power.

I found, however, that despite the laudable efforts of activists, the neo-Nazis seemed more energized than scared. In fact, I think the acts of many activists made their "enemies" more hateful and more determined to fight with them when they used violent tactics. If you watch videos of Charlottesville and other violent rallies, you will find that violence starts to escalate whenever people on both sides make physical contact with each other. Usually, at the early stage of a rally, both sides only shout their own slogans, yet whenever one side begins to target the other, verbal violence quickly turns into bloody armed conflicts.

Rallies like these never benefit anybody, because no one is capable of persuading anyone to achieve any form of real progress in pursuit of making society better. Conversation becomes virtually impossible as violence consumes angry participants on both sides and spits out victims covered in bruises.

Standing up to defend what is right is an honorable act, but it should not be done at the cost of human lives. Therefore, I think it is perhaps time we seek a more peaceful option so activists don't have to face the danger of dying for their beliefs.

During the summer, I had the opportunity to travel to Lhasa, the mecca of Tibetan Buddhism perched on top of the Himalayan mountains. I was amazed by the overwhelming sense of contentment amongst a people with very little material wealth. Additionally, I learned from the unique teachings Buddhism has to offer, many of which grant insight in resolving the predicament in our society.

Buddhist gurus never appear to be troubled by negative emotions, such as hate or anger, because they understand the root cause of these sentiments. From what I learned, the Buddhists view negative emotions as external afflictions, like a flu or a wound infection. When we see others display anger or hate or intolerance, we should be aware that our real enemies are the external factors that afflict those people, instead of the people themselves. When someone is consumed by hate, Buddhists treat them with compassion because they believe these people are slaves to the intense hatred that controls them.

Hatred puts people in shackles, it prevents them from making rational decisions and leads them to commit extreme acts of violence. No one was born to hate, yet everyone's upbringing determines what they are exposed to. I think we should seek to eliminate the hateful ideologies some people harbor, but not the people themselves.

Even if I am not able to convince someone else to give up their hate or anger, I can still prevent myself from stooping to these negative emotions. When I act in the same way as those I wish to protest against, I fail to stick to my own ideals. When neo-Nazis walk the streets shouting their sickening war cries, I should stand up to them, but I should not act in the grotesquely violent way they do. Those propagating hate want me to be triggered by their actions, they want me to be consumed by my anger. If I charge at their ranks with iron clubs in my hands, they succeed in their quest to influence me and make me as vengeful as they are. Their ideologies feed on hatred, and by violently reacting to their provocation we make them ever stronger.

> **Standing up to defend what is right is an honorable act, but it should not be done at the cost of human lives.**

When we talk of the murderer who rammed his car into a crowd in a fit of rage, we should be aware that the same rage that consumed him can also consume any of us. I think it is a sad sign of the state of affairs when people show up at rallies bearing arms as if bloodshed has become somewhat of a routine during rallies. Rallies are opportunities for people to express their beliefs, yet they somehow have become opportunities for people to justify senseless violence.

Going forward, I think it is prudent for everyone who cares about the future of our society to slow down a bit and consider their actions. Society should stop giving hate groups the attention they clearly do not deserve and rational people who understand that diversity and tolerance is what makes a nation strong should refrain from acting immaturely. We should hold our ground by refusing to interact with the hate groups, by refusing to allow them to influence us and by condemning their ideologies through peaceful acts.

The key to defeating the rising tide of hate is not directly attacking the hate groups. Instead, a safer, more effective approach should focus on spreading our own message of love, unity and diversity. Let us not allow hate to consume our mind as it did to many in this country, and let us preserve the inner tranquility that enables us to act wisely.

HTTPS://I.VIMEOCDN.COM/VIDEO/649948703_1280X720.JPG

In Charlottesville, far-right protestors and counter-protestors clashed, sometimes violently, over the former's hateful beliefs.

"Unconditional love and support:" approaching mental health on campus

by Gavin Meade '20
Staff Writer

For many students, the return to Hamilton College is an extremely pleasant experience. It is a time for friends to reconnect after a summer apart. There is the excitement of moving into a dorm with your close friends, the thrill of beginning another academic year and getting that much closer to graduation. There is, however, a silent minority of students for whom this is not the case. For these students, the start of another year brings uncertainty and anxiety, isolation and depression.

I would first like to share some quick statistics—you may have seen them before, and they are statistics that most people know. Nonetheless, it is important to make sure that we are all on the same page regarding the widespread presence of mental health issues. One in five adults suffered from a mental health issue in 2014, according to MentalHealth.gov. The Anxiety and Depression Association of America reports that Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) is the leading cause of disability in the U.S. for ages 15 to 43, and only 41 percent of adults in the U.S. with a mental health condition received mental health services in the past year. Among adults with a serious mental illness, 62.9 percent received mental health services in the past year, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

These statistics apply to the general population, but in college, they are even more striking. Among young adults aged 18–25 years, 8.3 percent have had serious thoughts of suicide. The 2013 National College Health Assessment examined over 125,000 students from more than 150 universities. This study revealed that about one-third of U.S. college students had difficulty functioning due to depression, and almost half said they had felt an overwhelming anxiety in the last year.

There is no disputing that there are students at Hamilton College who suffer from anxiety, depression or another mental health issue. My concern is that these students do not feel comfortable expressing their needs, and that there is a general dearth of understanding with regard to students experiencing anxiety or depression on campus.

In no way am I positing that the student body consists of heartless individuals who do not care about their peers' health needs; on the contrary, the year and several weeks that I have spent here have confirmed that the wonderful men and women on this campus are some of the most empathetic and genuinely good people I have ever known. The disconnect comes in understanding the differences between the experience of a mentally healthy student as opposed to one struggling with anxiety or any kind of depression.

It would be deeply hypocritical of me to stand on a soapbox lecturing about mental illness if I had no experience with it. Therefore, I think it is worth mentioning that, as someone who has battled, is battling and will battle depression and anxiety, it is an arena in which I have spent a lot of time. Additionally, my family has been stricken with MDD, generalized anxiety and Asperger's Syndrome, so I have personally experienced and have been surrounded by mental health issues for years.

> **There is a culture of fear and secrecy surrounding mental health that we all have to fight. We have to encourage people who need help to get it. We have to be able to trust that those around us love and support us and want us to be well. We have to go the extra mile and check in on each other. As cliché as it sounds: only unconditional love and support will be the agents of change.**

It is also an opening part of my life. I am studying to become a psychiatrist so I can help people afflicted with these exact illnesses. I am not sharing this with you to garner sympathy points or tug on your heartstrings. I just want readers to know that I have seen these struggles in my own life, and I understand the suffering they can cause in people.

There is a stigma about mental illness that permeates our everyday lives. People do not like to think or talk about mental illness, and those who live with mental issues often feel ashamed or embarrassed of their condition. MDD or anxiety can be just as debilitating as a broken arm when it comes to interfering in the classroom or the social scene. I have never seen someone with a broken arm be told to just "try harder" or "just ignore it" and act like they are totally healthy. Why, then, do we tell people with depression or anxiety to just "not think about it"? Why do we say, "I know it's tough, but try and snap out of it?" Unless you have gone through what the other person has, you cannot have any idea what it is like.

Even if you have had anxiety or depression in the past, treating two different people with the same condition as if their experiences are the same is an intrinsically flawed exercise. Everyone experiences life in their own way, and those experiences shape the way they see the world. For people with anxiety and/or depression, a casual comment made in jest, the prospect of going to a party, or even waking up for class can seem like a herculean effort.

Imagine you have to give a presentation in class, and you are worried that you will have a panic attack. You are so focused on not panicking that you panic. You try and give your presentation, and in your head, all you hear and see is judgment and scorn, even if they are not present at all. Imagine not being able to get out of bed and thinking that none your friends will understand, because they cannot or will not. It is a disorder, not a decision.

No one wants to look crazy. No one wants to be seen walking out of the counseling center and have to worry that someone will tell people that they are getting therapy. There is a culture of fear and secrecy surrounding mental health that we all have to fight. We have to encourage people who need help to get it. We have to be able to trust that those around us love and support us and want us to be well. We have to go the extra mile and check in on each other. As cliché as it sounds: only unconditional love and support will be the agents of change.

For those trapped in the profound darkness of depression or caught in the constant, frenetic grips of anxiety, there is nothing quite like the warmth and constancy of friendship. You cannot recover from anxiety by just staying calm. You cannot recover from depression by just being positive. You cannot recover from anorexia by just eating more. If mental illnesses were that simple, we would not be struggling in the first place.

But I know you have heard that before. Love and understanding—that is all well and good, you might be thinking, but what, specifically, can I do? I do not pretend to have all the answers, but I have a few suggestions.

If you are in a position of leadership in a club, social organization, or sports team, take a moment to check in on your peers.

If someone is grappling with a condition and you know or suspect it, pull them aside and tell them that you are there for them, should they need it.

If your friend or someone close to you confides in you, honor their trust. If you do not feel comfortable talking to them about their situation, tell them you are there for them but that the counseling center or a Peer Counselor might serve them better. If you are walking down Martin's Way and someone clearly needs help, be the person who stops. Combatting the stigma surrounding mental illness may seem to be a Sisyphean task but it is one that, with the combined love and effort of the Hamily, we must undertake.

As always in my articles, the opinions and ideas expressed here are solely my own. If you have questions or comments on my article, please feel free to email me, and if you are reading this and need a friend to talk to then please, by all means, shoot me an email.

I will end with a quote from Emma Goldman: "The most violent element in society is ignorance."

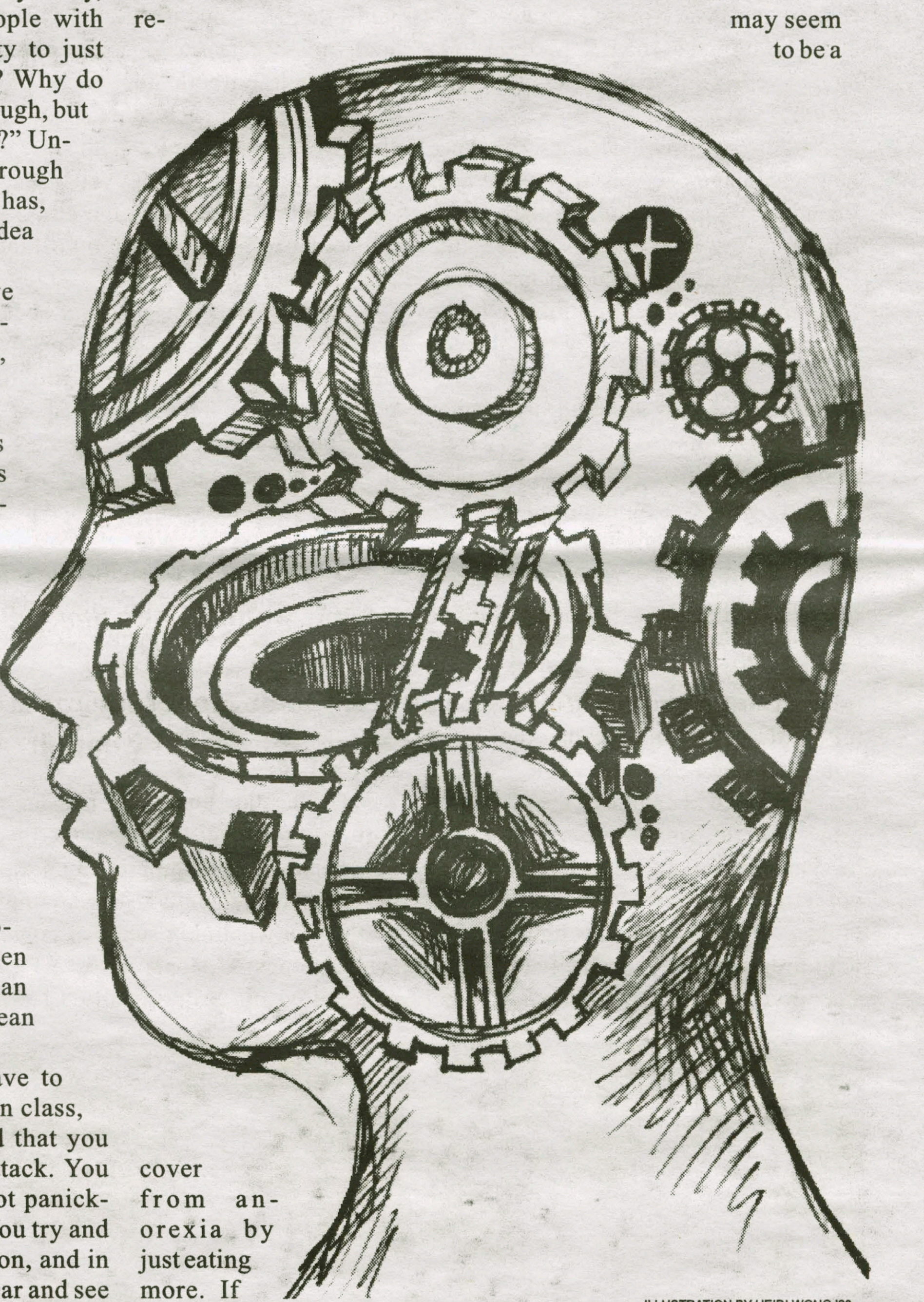


ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

Bachelor & Bachelorette
Spec Edition

Dillon Kelly '18

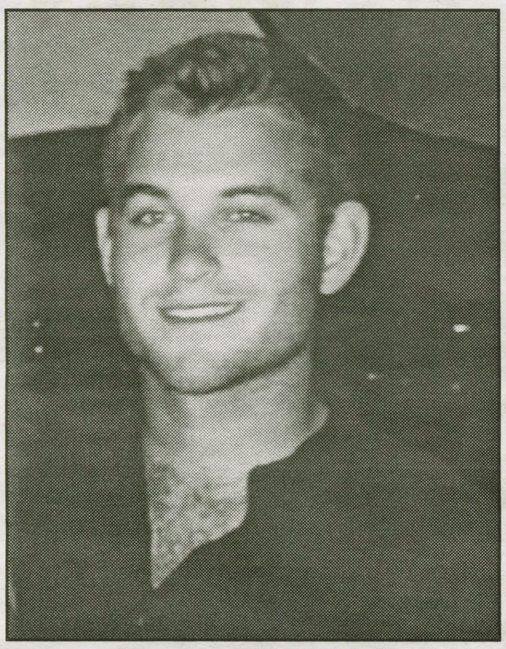


PHOTO COURTESY OF DILLON KELLY '18

Hometown: *Rye, NY.*
Home on Campus: *Groad.*
Major: *Literature.*
Turn on? *Someone taking control of the situation.*
Turn off? *A bad haircut.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Groad because I'm slightly removed but always down for a good time.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Beyonce and Jay Z because I would consider Blue Ivy an icon of mine.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Comedy.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *My phone, my car and Vermont sharp white cheddar cheese.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Bundy Dining Hall.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *My room.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The streaking team. But I by no means am mentally or physically prepared for that.*
What's your patronus and why? *A small bird of sorts because I want to fly but I'd probably get pretty annoying.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Darty on the roof of Milbank.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Drunk eating.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Drunk eating.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Caitlin Becker... hit me uppp.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A tapestry of the wilderness because I'm not the biggest fan of the outdoors.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Filet Mignon because I'm expensive and flavorful.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off.*
Favorite campus study spot? *Science Center atrium.*
What's the last lie you told? *That I was busy doing homework.*
What was your first thought this morning? *I'm by no means prepared for this day.*
What's the meaning of life? *Leisure.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Mushu from Mulan.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *JFK because it's called class.*

Bridget Lavin '18

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIDGET LAVIN '18

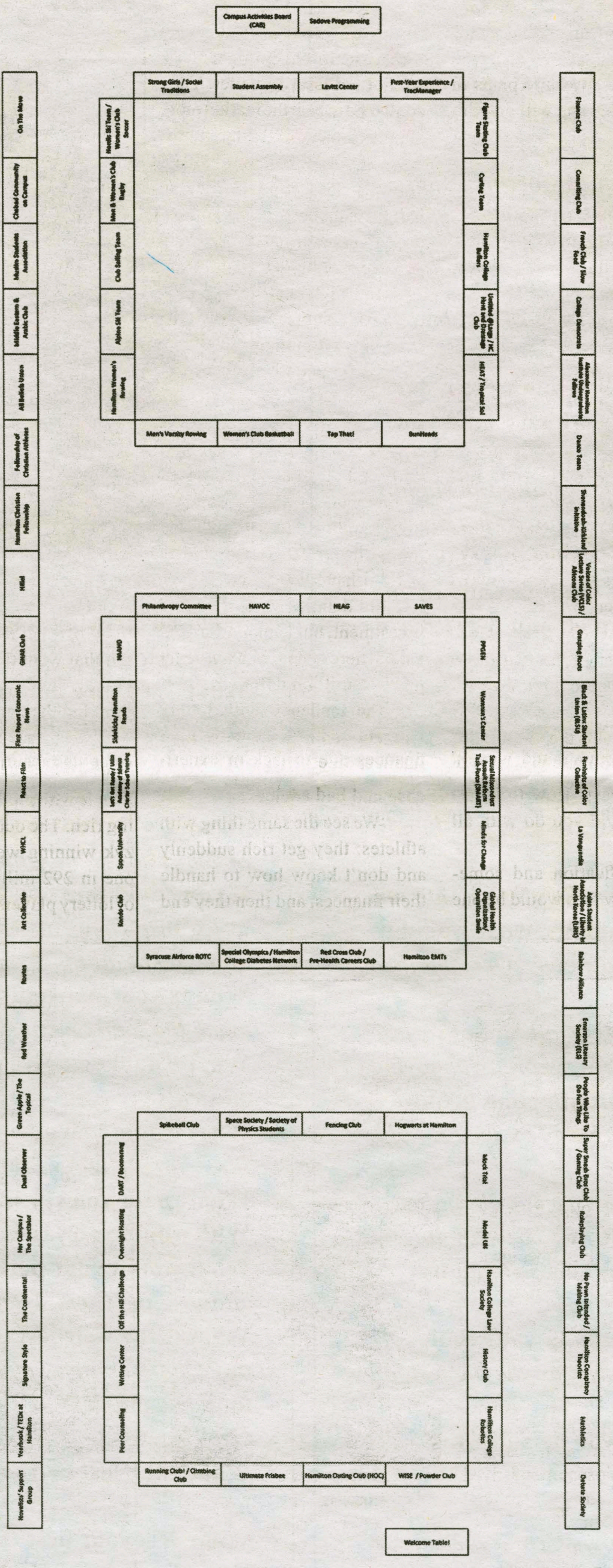
Hometown: *Manhasset, NY.*
Home on Campus: *Sken.*
Major: *Theatre/ Women's and Gender Studies.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *I quite identify with the "Sken as a John Mulaney quote" description in that it's 100 percent easier to not do things than to do them.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *The snack that smiles back.*
What TV genre best describes you? *You know that TV show "You're the Worst".....*
What's your type? *Double spaced, Times New Roman, size 12.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Goldfish, Sephora and "The Office" being on Netflix.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Conspiracy Theorists cause they've just got crazy sh*t going on at all times and I'm into it.*
What's your patronus and why? *Elephant because I'm much too loud and annoy everyone in the room.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Student-run plays and musicals.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Asking me to be the Bachelorette when I'm not at all witty.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Caitlin Topi.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Sharon Topi.*
What would your perfect date be? *Please take me to Tailor & the Cook, I need another excuse to go...*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *The tiny Clinton pottery mug that other people apparently use as a cute planter?? I've been using it as a shot glass for 3 years now...*
What's the last lie you told? *Probably something on this list.*
What was your first thought this morning? *That I forgot to send an email last night...*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *I feel obligated to say Hamilton.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Not coming to plays in the spring or the fall.*
What's your favorite dining hall? *McEwen until we get an Opus 3 in the KTSA.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off.*

STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS FAIR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

12PM-3PM

JOIN STUDENT ORGS
MEET NEW PEOPLE
FREE GIVEAWAYS
GET INVOLVED



NOW UNDER THE BIG TENT
ON DUNHAM GREEN!

Making bank by chance

by Peter Case '21
Features Contributor

At face value, winning 758.7 million dollars from the Powerball Lottery would appear to be an extremely lucky break. In the case of Mavis Wanczyk, however, laying claim to the largest undivided lottery sum in North American history was both a blessing and a curse.

After discovering that she had won, Wanczyk promptly retired from her thirty-two year career as a hospital worker at Mercy Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. The fifty-three-year-old mother of two was—unsurprisingly—shocked by her win. She seems, however, unphased by her windfall, stating, "I just want to be me, and be alone and figure out what I want."

But it seems that others want to capitalize on her luck. According to the Chicopee, Massachusetts police, where the fateful lottery ticket was purchased and where Manczyk now resides, a police car will remain in the winner's driveway until further notice. Numerous reports of neighbors being questioned about Manczyk's address and whereabouts have surfaced, and the unintended consequences of being a Powerball winner are quickly coming to light. Wanczyk must now accept her role as a multimillionaire and, consequently, a target.

After taxes, Wanczyk took home 336 million dollars in a lump sum and admits that she does not have any large plans in place as to what she will do with her winnings. "The first thing I want to do is just sit back and relax," she tells reporters.

With a lump sum of cash in the bank roughly equivalent to one third of Hamilton College's endowment, Manczyk's newfound wealth begs the question: "What would you do with 336 million dollars?"

In the days, weeks and months following a lottery win, the life of the winner changes drastically, and the terrain that follows can be difficult to navigate. From financial decisions to questions of safety, lotteries have taken the lives and livelihoods of many a winner.

Professor Olga A. Rud, Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, agreed to a *Spectator* interview to answer some questions about the strategies of managing newfound wealth. Where to invest? How to invest it? What would you do with all of that cash?

"Diversification and something with low fees would be one of the ways to go," says Professor Rud when asked how she would invest her theoretical winnings.

"[Accounts and Funds] which are more managed, and which usually charge higher fees, are not necessarily better. They don't tend to beat the market more than less managed hedge funds. So in my opinion, from what I know, at least on a theoretical basis, I would put [my winnings] in a diversified portfolio where it could steadily accumulate."

Rud advises against making the mistake of trying to beat the stock market on your own.

"Most people cannot beat the stock market. More or less, it kind of evens out, so if you have a lot of money, you could potentially make a lot of money. So for people who have large sums to invest and can do it in the long term, it is probably a good idea. If I did have that much money, I would definitely put it toward investment, but I am not sure exactly where because I have never had 336 million dollars."

The tendency with lottery winners is to mismanage their finances due to lack of experience and bad advice.

"We see the same thing with athletes: they get rich suddenly and don't know how to handle their finances, and then they end up 10 years later with nothing."

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

According to Professor Rud, the biggest mistake a lottery winner could make would be "not keeping track of what they have, or thinking that what they have is a lot of money," and becoming lured into thinking their funds are endless.

The lottery has been criticized since its inception for preying on people with pipe dreams of becoming rich. The odds of Mavis Wanczyk winning were approximately one in 292 million. The majority of lottery players are working class people who just want a lucky break and dream of having their name on the giant check. Wanczyk's "pipe dream came true" and, for now, she seems to have her priorities straight.

As for Professor Rud, she does not know what she would exactly do with her winnings.

"It depends on the situation," she says. "I have student loans."

Now that's a strategy that Hamilton alumnus would likely agree with.

HUMANS OF (CENTRAL) NY

by Jake Samieske '21 and Peter Case '21
Features Contributors

Every Thursday, just a short walk down the hill, The Clinton Farmer's market displays a variety of local artisans, chefs and farmers, all with a story to tell. Among them is an artist from West Winfield by the name of Timothy G. Welch. We had the opportunity to talk to him on Thursday, Aug. 17.

The inception of his art career coincided with his diagnosis of Parkinson's disease nine years ago. Originally a chef at a local restaurant, his diseases forced him to find a new path; he eventually became a substitute teacher and, just two years ago, a painter.

"I don't know if it's the Parkinson's that has changed the neurological wiring in my brain, or if it's an innate ability I had all along. Either way it's good therapy for me and I raise awareness for the disease as well as a few dollars for Albany Medical Center."

Welch receives therapeutic treatment from a specialist at the Center.

The artistic process for someone with Parkinson's can be a challenge. Welch often has difficulty drawing straight lines or detail.

"The name of my business is Pictures from Parkinson's because the pictures are in some part derived from the disease I have. Basically all of it is from my imagination. I lay a backdrop on my painting I look and it and decide: is it water? Is it trees? Is it mountains? And based on the shading of the backdrop I'll just create from there ... If I'm doing trees often times I just let the tremor do the work. If it has a lot of variation and color in the leaves, I take a fan brush and dip it in paint, and if i'm tremoring, I just let the tremor hit the paper. I couldn't be that random if I wanted to!"

Welch's artistic purpose is not

PHOTO COURTESY OF CASE '21 AND SAMIESKE '21

solely proprietary, his artwork also acts as a therapeutic tool. "Parkinson's has taught me patience. It's taught me that my challenges don't have to define who I am. I can still do the things I want to do and more, despite the disease. It becomes a question of 'Is the disease going to take over you, or are you going to try to control the disease as best as possible, and I like the latter.'"

Welch will be returning to the Clinton farmer's market "every Thursday, selling pictures and paintings and cards."

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

by Gabrielle Colchete '21
Features Contributor

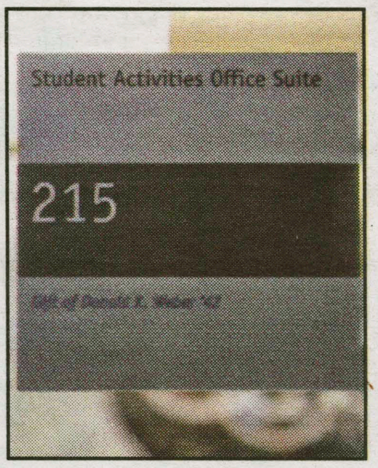


PHOTO COURTESY OF LEVANA LYU '21

As classes start and add/drop period comes to an end, returning students begin to ease back into college life. After a bustling first weekend of carnival activities, the Student Activities Board and CAB have more in store for those who are eager to dive into community life.

Looking to meet new people with shared interests? Then stop by the Annual Student Organization Fair this Friday, September 1, on the Sadove terrace and browse the variety of clubs and organizations that Hamilton offers. Whatever interests you, chances are there is a club for it!

For those who are passionate about celebrating the diversity that is present on campus, consider attending the Days-Massolo Center open house on Wednesday, September 6.

If you did not get the opportunity to perform at the First-Year Coffee House, now is your chance! On Saturday, September 14, there will be an acoustic coffee house in the Fillius Barn.

Finally, WHCL is in the process of planning an outdoor concert in Babbitt Pavilion for Saturday, September 16. Music lovers, stay tuned for further information on this event.

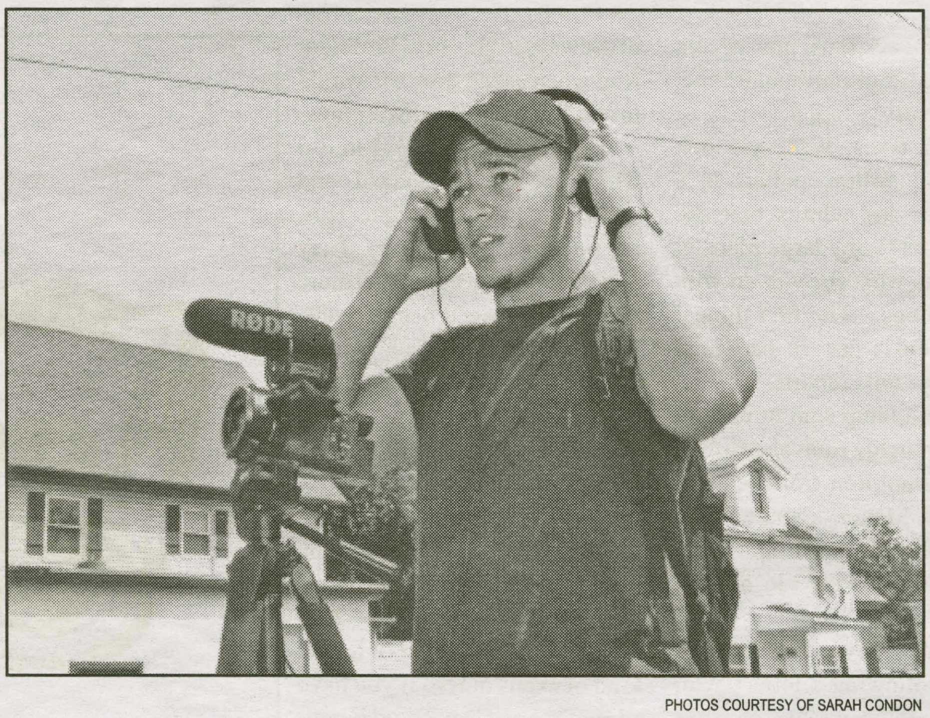
Emerson recipient Marquis Palmer '18 films documentary in Utica

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

After an entire academic year in England, philosophy major Marquis Palmer '18 returned to his hometown of Utica, New York to begin work on his 2017 Emerson project: a short-film documentary about the experience of having a loved one incarcerated.

Inspired by the experience of having his father—and so many more of his loved ones— incarcerated, Palmer decided to interview people in his community who had undergone similar experiences. More specifically, he said that his desire to focus on mass incarceration struck him during his first semester abroad at Oxford University. At Hamilton, Palmer had regularly heard about people he knew being locked up, something that has always been front and center in his life. Being at Oxford in such a drastically different context, however, caused him to receive similar news in a different, unexpected way.

"On one hand, [I was] at one of the Western world's most lauded institutions of higher learning studying Philosophy, of all things," he commented. "On the other hand, my best friends and family members [were] getting locked up in prison. It was me experiencing this at Oxford that drove me to ask, 'How are other people dealing with this psychologically, emotionally and even financially?'"



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SARAH CONDON

Palmer prepares his equipment to gather footage for his documentary.

In thinking about a way to answer this question, Palmer reached out to Professor Doran Larson of the Literature and Creative Writing Department at Hamilton. Professor Larson is known for his classes specialized in prison writing and prison issues, having also published many pieces on the topic of incarceration. Larson agreed to advise Palmer's Emerson project.

"One aim of the project is to contribute to the public's understanding of how mass incarceration impacts communities," Palmer commented. "What we don't often stop and consider are the ways in which the loved ones back home are impacted once that person is incarcerated. Simultaneously, I want to elicit local discussion, and ultimately, action, toward addressing mass incarceration in Utica."

While Palmer does not necessarily envision himself putting filmmaking or documentaries at the forefront of his future, he does hope to continue focusing on the "penal philosophy underpinning the propagation of mass incarceration." Eventually, he wants to do both legal work (as an attorney representing the formerly incarcerated) and philosophical work (engaging in legal research on issues of mass incarceration and potentially examining the impact it has on communities).

As a philosophy major, Palmer is often asked how his extremely sociologically-based project with an artistic medium came to fruition. He cites Socrates, who states, "the unexamined life is not worth living." Similarly, Palmer wanted to pose this imperative issue on society, and not just one individual.

"If you want to live in a worthy society, subject it to critical examination so that you scrutinize its worst element in order to push it to become a better version of itself — that's what my project is about," he explained "It's about focusing on the issue of mass incarceration—a sordid aspect of our society—in order to get people to address it, rid it and thereby push society to become a better version of itself."

Palmer hopes to present the finalized documentary to the Hamilton community at a screening in mid-to-late spring. He also hopes to show his piece to those in the Utica community and even an online audience.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SARAH CONDON

Palmer filming B-roll content in Utica.

Days-Massolo Center and the Wellin Museum to host visit from Citizen Artist Vanessa German

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

Friday, Sept. 8 at 3 p.m. Days-Massolo Center

This Friday, Sept. 8 at 3 p.m. in the Days-Massolo Center, sculptor, activist, poet and performance artist Vanessa German will be coming to campus for an informal meeting over coffee.

Based in Pittsburgh, many of her art sculptures are made of objects from around her neighborhood, in addition to doll parts, African beads, cowrie shells, and antique tins. Many of her pieces work to symbolize the oppression of African Americans.

She will also hold a conversation and performance at the Wellin Museum with the exhibition Innovative Approaches Honored Traditions: The Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum at Five Years, Highlights from the Permanent Collection on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 3 p.m.. The event will be free and open to the public.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VANESSA GERMAN

Sculpture featured in upcoming exhibit, by Vanessa German.

WHCL 88.7FM

Show Profile:

The Great White (Martin's) Way

Sundays at 10 p.m.

with...

Bridget Lavin '18 and Sarah Hoover '18

Every week these two lovely ladies playing their favorite hits from the Great White Way. Most of the Broadway music is from newer shows, but they'll also feature some old-school classics.

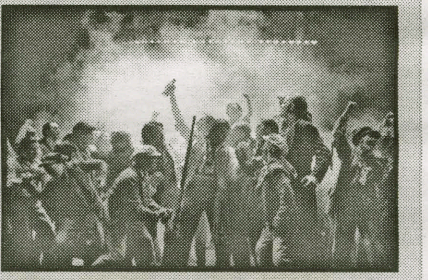


PHOTO PROVIDED BY MOVIECAX MOVIECAX, DISTRIBUTED UNDER A CC-BY 2.0 LICENSE

***The Great White (Martin's) Way* will often feature music from *Les Miserables*.**

Typical Playlist:

"In the Heights"
– In the Heights

"One Day More"
– Les Miserables

"My Shot"
– Hamilton

"Opening"
– A Chorus Line

Established in 1941, WHCL is a non-profit, student-run, free-form radio station. Located atop College Hill in the beautiful village of Clinton, New York, it boasts 270 watts of power and runs 20 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Wellin Museum celebrates 5th anniversary with permanent exhibit

by Bethany Vickery '20
A&E Editor

On Saturday, September 9, Hamilton College's Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art will welcome a new exhibit. The opening of *Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions* kicks off at 3 p.m. with a conversation amongst the public, artist Vanessa German and the exhibition curator Katherine D. Alcauskas. Following will be a free reception from 4-6 p.m..The opening honors the Wellin's fifth anniversary, and the exhibit aims to convey a modern approach to the interpretation of art, both new and old.

The exhibit contains both contemporary and historic works from the museum's permanent collection, offering them side-by-side in challenge to more traditional curatorial methods. From ancient Mesoamerican ceramics to contemporary pieces from 2016, the exhibition aims to address some of the Wellin's overarching goals. Tracey Adler, the Johnson-Pote Director of the Wellin, emphasized the connection between *Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions* and the underlying purpose of the museum itself. "Since the Wellin first opened in 2012, we have continued to grow the collection, acquiring 450 works of art through select gifts and purchases, with a specific focus on emerging and mid-career artists, as well as artists who have been historically underrepresented." The collection holds true to its intentions, featuring works across historical periods and cultures.

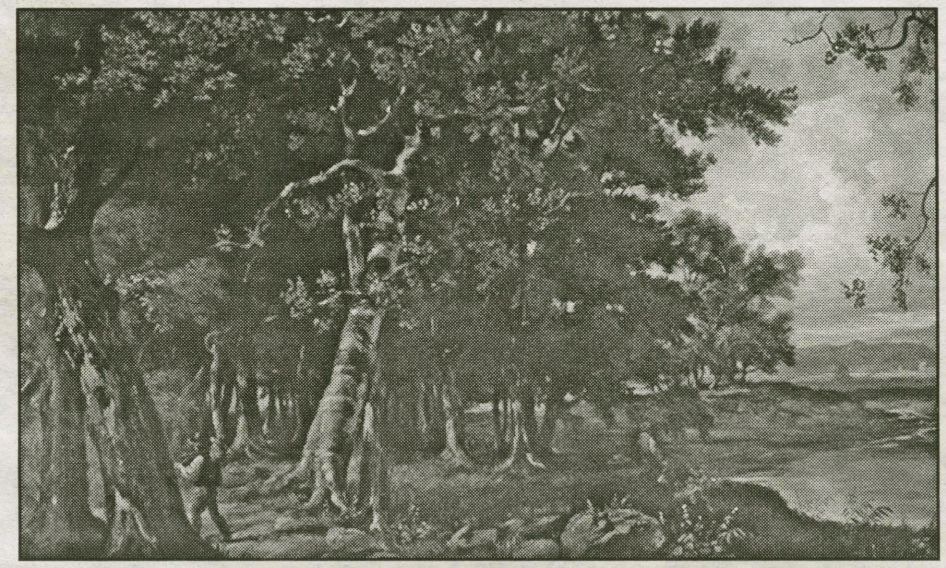


PHOTO COURTESY OF WELLIN MUSEUM

"Figures in a Wooded Landscape," featured in the upcoming exhibit.

Over the past 200 years, the college received donations of art from alumni and friends, much of which will be featured in the upcoming exhibition. The earliest works are from 1300 BCE, and the three newest acquisitions were all produced in 2016. The new works include Tightrope, Familiar Yet Complex 2, an abstract piece by Elias Sime, an untitled sculpture by Michelle Grabner, and a mixed media sculpture by Vanessa German. Sime's piece is composed of electronic elements and provides commentary on the role of technology in modern society. Grabner's bronze sculpture is cast from a hand-crocheted blanket and explores concepts of texture and space. German's mixed media sculpture, "i will never smile again," combines a wide range of elements, from household objects to cowrie shells and doll parts. Despite the vastly different themes of each of the new works, the new acquisitions all represent the Wellin's efforts to diversify and update their collection.

The historic works in the exhibition include ancient Greek vases, glass vessels from the Roman Empire, Mesoamerican ceramics and Native American objects of material culture. The breadth of the exhibition symbolizes the Wellin's endeavor to showcase art from multiple cultures and eras. The exhibition will be open through Dec. 10, and the museum will host two additional related events. The first program, "Wellin Collects: A Discussion with William E. Williams," will be Friday, Oct. 20 from 4:30 p.m to 6:00 p.m. Alumnus William E. Williams '73, currently a Professor in the Humanities at Haverford College, will address the importance of having a teaching collection available in liberal arts colleges. The second program will be a curator's tour on Thursday, November 9 from 4:15 to 5:00 p.m. with Katherine D. Alcauskas. All programs are free.

A cappella returns with "Down the Babbitt Hole"

by Edgar Otero '20
A&E Contributor

Ringing in the new academic year on Friday, Aug. 25 were none other than Hamilton's very own a cappella groups with a concert to welcome first-year students and upperclassmen alike back to campus. Presented by Duelly Noted, Hamilton's youngest all-gender a cappella group, "Down the Babbitt Hole" featured must-see performances by the Buffers, Special K, Tumbling After and The Hamiltones all in one night. With a repertoire of hits, ballads and everything in between, the a cappella scene could not have kicked off the new semester in a more entertaining way.

Hamilton's only all-male a cappella group, the Buffers, was the opening act and captivated the audience with a balance of high-tempo and heartfelt selections. The group's original sense of humor and crowd-pleasing harmonies have established them as a Hamilton staple for decades. Dressed in their signature suits with trendy navy blazers, the Buffers brought the power with their dynamic opening track followed by a warm, moving ballad. The closing tune was an upbeat love song that exuded passion and sentiment and left a lasting impression on the hearts and minds of those in attendance.

Next up was Hamilton's oldest all-female a cappella group, Special K, with their own brand of musical flavor. Decked out in all black, the group of singers rode the wave of energy left off by the previous act and delivered powerful pieces that left the Hamilton student body in awe. The songs were full of soul and displayed the heart that each member put into their craft to create eloquent, vibrant music for all to enjoy. The band of sisters closed their performance with an empowering track that pumped up those in attendance. The young women exuded confidence with unmatched poise, composure and vocal range, which made them a tough act to follow.

The following group, however, did not disappoint. The Hamiltones, one of Hamilton's premier all-gender a cappella groups, burst onto the stage with nothing but excitement and eagerness to sing their hearts out. Their first song was a classic Britney Spears piece that encouraged sing-alongs from the crowd, followed by a high-spirited middle number that indeed uplifted spirits after a whirlwind of a first week back on campus. Their beach-themed attire, made complete with fashionable flowery shirts, represented the last taste of summer vibes before the weather cools down for the fall. Their closer was as dynamic and unique as the members themselves, making for an impressionable and unforgettable first Hamiltones appearance of the semester.

Afterwards came Tumbling After, Hamilton's youngest all-female a cappella group that sported a forest green look, reflective of the earthy fall colors that paint Hamilton's campus each year. With a fiery intensity like no other, TA added their own eclectic musical tastes to the show with a mix of gentle and robust pieces that kept the audience on the edge of their seats. Their rendition of "Survivor" by Destiny's Child was empowering and proved to be a definite hit among the audience of Hamilton students, and doubled as a great song choice to set the tone for a successful semester ahead for everyone.

Last but certainly not least, the highly anticipated main event arrived in the form of Hamilton's one-of-a-kind all-gender a cappella group Duelly Noted, the newest outfit of them all. Befitting the theme of the concert, the members of the group were dressed in costume for their comedic skit, "Down the Babbitt Hole," inspired by the beloved tale, Alice in Wonderland. In the light-hearted performance, a first-year student unknowingly wanders into Babbitt Hall as she tries to find her way back to her lightside dorm with the help of some new upperclassmen friends she meets along the way. Full of humor and catchy melodies, Duelly's song lineup was as novel as their costumes (and yes, there was a member dressed as a bunny). It was as if one were watching a musical, where the cast would erupt into song at the right moment each time during the performance to fit the storyline. Comedic as ever, the group evoked more laughter than one would expect from an a cappella concert, which made the show all the more entertaining and lovable.

Overall, the first a cappella concert of the year proved to be a grand success, with each group showcasing their immense musical talent and providing the student body with a taste for more tunes (and laughs) to come this semester.

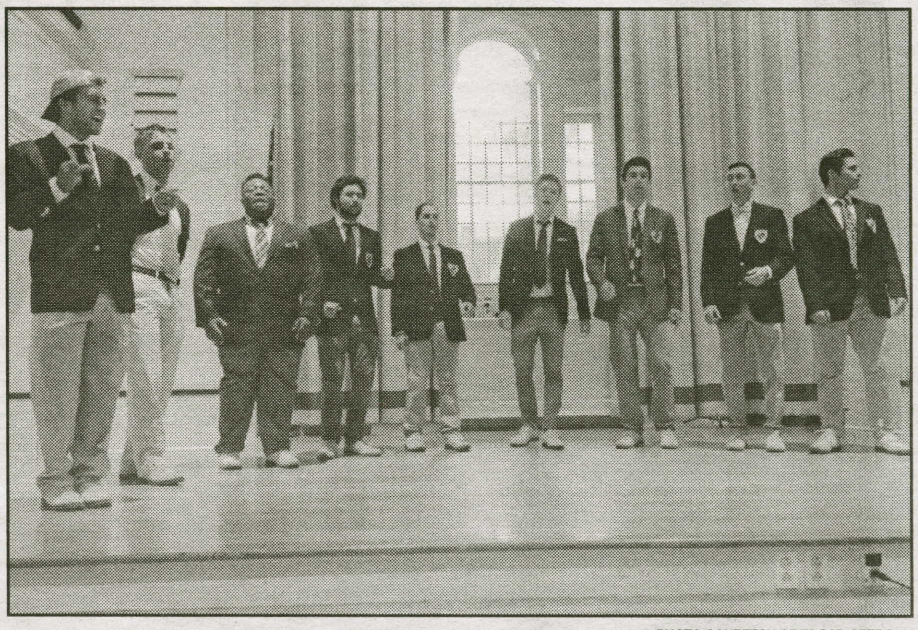


PHOTO COURTESY OF EDGAR OTERO '20

Hamilton's only all-male a capella group, The Buffers, performs a song in the Chapel.

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18|47 The Spectator

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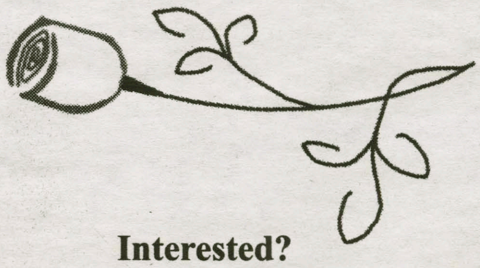

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Floyd Mayweather Jr. knocks out Conor McGregor in battle of arrogant trash-talkers

by Levi Lorenzo '19
Sports Editor

Note: The first part of this article was written on Friday, Aug. 25 before the fight.

Tomorrow night, Conor McGregor and Floyd Mayweather Jr. will step into the ring for a boxing match, and the only certainty is that both men will receive handsome rewards for the fight regardless of the result. Mayweather is coming out of a two-year retirement to attempt to claim his 50th boxing win, an impressive feat, especially considering that he has never lost. Let me repeat that: Floyd Mayweather Jr. is undefeated in his professional boxing career. He is a five-division world champion, has won fifteen world titles, and has claimed the lineal championship in four different weight classes. So if you think it is absurd that, even though Floyd is 40 years old and coming out of retirement, McGregor, an MMA fighter, would step into the ring with Floyd, you are right. That said, McGregor has nothing to lose and everything to gain. He may make up to $100 million on this single fight and, if he loses, he has the easy excuse that he is not a boxer and Floyd is one of boxing's greats. If he wins, he will add perhaps the finest achievement to his already impressive resume and go down in history as the MMA fighter that beat the best defensive boxer, and possibly the most accurate puncher, of all-time.

I despise the character of both men. My dislike stems largely from their incessant trash-talking, their arrogance which is only paralleled by each other's and their rampant narcissism. McGregor and Mayweather have the mantle to be role models and they certainly are not. I understand that they are part of a business and by being outrageous they create story lines which help sell the fight. Perhaps I should not be too hasty to judge; maybe Floyd has learned to read in his retirement. Maybe McGregor is too narcissistic to realize the absolute hypocrisy of the "humble in victory, humble in defeat" comment he made after tapping out against Nate Diaz.

The above is a long way of explaining that my opinion of this fight is unbiased. The fight could be incredibly boring, as many felt the Mayweather-Pacquiao fight was, Mayweather could evade McGregor's punches and win by decision. I see McGregor's only change as an early-round knockout. Floyd is notorious for his mid-fight adjustments once he picks up on his opponent's style. Despite the conspiracies that Mayweather will throw the fight to set up an even a re-match with an even larger payout, I do not see that happening. While Mayweather has not fought in two years, two years is not an eternity in boxing, and Mayweather never relied on his knockout power anyways. Mayweather has not knocked anyone out in six years, and I do not see him ending that streak against McGregor, but I do not think McGregor will land many punches. Remember: Mayweather has never lost, and I do not see that changing, let alone at the hands of someone who is not a professional boxer.

Prediction: **Mayweather by Unanimous Decision (Who then proceeds to ride off into the sunset while McGregor resurrects his MMA career and acts like the loss never happened).**

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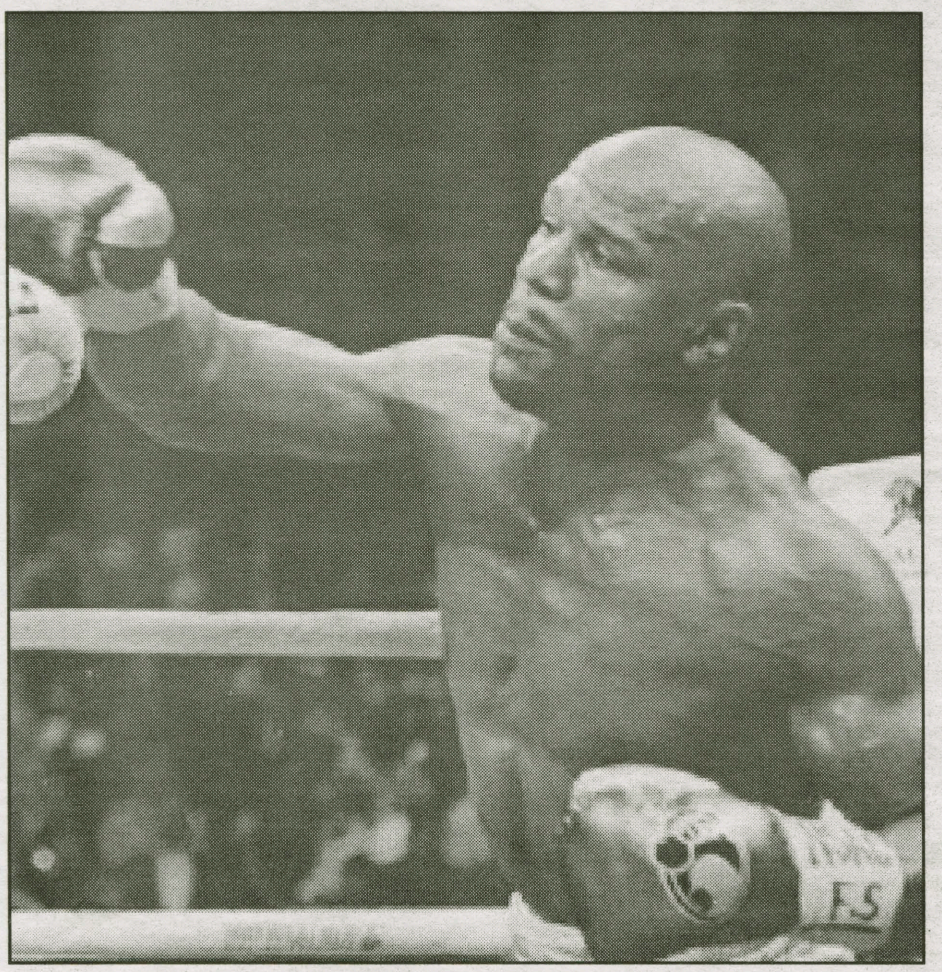
McGregor ran his mouth but ultimately fell in the tenth round.

The remainder of this article was written on Sunday, Aug. 27 after the fight:

Conor McGregor impressed me last night. He more than held his own for the first two rounds and actually looked like a boxer, aside from his bad habit of hammer punching the back of Floyd's head, which is not allowed in boxing. He won the first round on all three judges scorecards, and one judge gave him the second and third rounds as well. Floyd showed his age in the fight, moving less and reacting slower than he has in the past; however, he also showed why he is one of the all-time greats. He did what he does best: he let McGregor tire in what was the longest fight McGregor has fought in his professional career (only once had he fought the full 25 minutes of a UFC championship bout) while reading his fighting style to set himself up for victory. Mayweather finally began to capitalize in the ninth round, landing several key punches on a visibly tired McGregor. As the ninth round ended, one could sense that the the tenth round would likely be the last. It was. Mayweather pounded McGregor to the body then landed two huge shots to the head, and the referee stopped the fight, granting Mayweather his record-setting 50th victory by technical knockout.

Mayweather has indicated that he will not return to the ring, and quite frankly, why should he? His 50 wins are the most ever by an undefeated professional boxer, edging out the legendary Rocky Marciano, who went 49-0 in his career. One would imagine that McGregor will return to the octagon; lest we forget he is the reigning UFC lightweight world champion. The key difference for both men is that they are far wealthier: McGregor may have quadrupled his net worth of $37 million and Mayweather likely added more than 50% to his $400 million net worth. The fight was entertaining through and through and, I will admit, I bought into the hype a bit. While I have no more respect for either man's character, one must admire their dedication, passion and dogged intensity. Professional boxing, or mixed martial arts for that matter, is not easy, and, while the monetary compensation for those at the very top more than makes up for the struggle, what men like Conor McGregor and Floyd Mayweather do at the highest-level is incredibly impressive, even awe-inspiring.

The fight certainly kept many entertained and assuredly provided a needed distraction in a news cycle than can be nauseating at times. Years, perhaps even decades, will pass before another boxing match of this scale comes around; I hope better characters fight in that match, maybe even role models, but I can only hope. Until that fight comes around, let us find our role models in other outlets, prop up those who represent our values, and drown out the voices that contradict them. Mayweather and McGregor made millions of people boxing fans for a night; imagine the good that they could do with that spotlight.



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Mayweather made an estimated $300 million on Saturday night.

This week in Hamilton College sports

by Patrick Malin '18
Sports Editor

Hamilton Golf Invitational

Sept. 2 (1:00p.m.) and Sept. 3 (10:30p.m.) @ Yahnundasis Golf Club; New Hartford, N.Y.

The men's and women's golf teams tee off the season this weekend with their first and only home tournament of the fall semester. The golf teams will be under the leadership of a new head coach this year, with Lauren Cupp (a Hamilton alumna) officially taking over the title after spending the last six months as interim head coach for the program. Cupp leads a talented roster of men's golfers led by Joe Tigani '18, a three-time Division III PING All-Region Team selection who posted a career best round score of 69 at the Williams Invitational last spring. On the women's side, Libbie Warner '19 hopes to utilize her veteran leadership to repeat her strong 2016/17 campaign. Both teams will use early season competition to prepare for the NESCAC Golf Championship qualifiers hosted by Trinity College at the end of September.

Men's Soccer vs. SUNY Oswego

Sept. 5, 4:30p.m. @ Love Field (Hamilton College)

The Continentals face a familiar foe in their home opener on Tuesday. Hamilton took on SUNY Oswego away to open the 2016 fall season, and dropped the game 2-0. The Continentals went on to have a remarkable season on the pitch, falling just short in the NESCAC Championship against Amherst. The men's soccer team hopes to carry the momentum from last year's spectacular playoff run into next week's match-up with the Lakers. The Lakers will have already played two games prior to their arrival to Clinton, NY, kicking off their season this weekend with the Oswego State Men's Soccer Classic that features games against Houghton and SUNY-Purchase. The Continentals will open the NESAC season against Bates on Love Field on Sept. 9. Hamilton has an experienced core of returning starters balanced with a strong crop of young talent ensuring the team remains competitive in the top half of the NESCAC this fall.

Women's Soccer @ Williams

Sept. 6, 4:00p.m. Williamstown, MA

The Hamilton women's soccer team will square off with a bitter rival to open the 2017 season, battling the Williams Ephs in Massachusetts in what will surely be a tough NESCAC battle. Williams has ended the Continentals' season in consecutive years, eliminating Hamilton from the NESCAC playoffs in the quarterfinals in both 2015 and 2016. Williams is a constant fixture not only atop the NESCAC, but in the NCAA Division III National Rankings, where the team advances to the NCAA tournament annually. The Ephs made it to the quarterfinals in last year's national tournament after an upset in penalty kicks in the semi-finals of the conference championship. Williams is ranked No. 7 in the pre-season Division III poll. The Continentals hope to kickoff the season with an emphatic win against a NESCAC juggernaut to prove themselves as noteworthy contenders for the conference title.

Field Hockey vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)

Sept. 6, 7:00p.m. @ Goodfriend Field (Hamilton College)

The Hamilton field hockey team looks primed for success in 2017, after a second place finish in the NESCAC in 2016. The Continentals currently sit at 15th in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III Top 20 preseason poll. The Continentals welcome back NFHCA third team All-American goalie, Julia Booth '19, who seeks to anchor a strong back-line. Last year's leading point-scorer Michaela Giuttari '20 will begin her assault on the program's single-season scoring record against the RPI Engineers. The Engineers finished 10-7 overall last year, but struggled against Liberty League opponents, winning just twice against conference foes. The Continentals thrived at home last year, finishing with a 7-1 record at Goodfriend Field. The team will hope to replicate this feat in 2017 beginning with a week one victory over RPI in front of a boisterous home crowd on Wednesday.

New coaches conjure excitement

from New Coaches, page 16

CAC this year." Mariano's proven success both on and off the field is sure to help the rising Continentals as they establish their dominance in the conference.

Kristin Baker, another New York native, joins the Continentals' volleyball program this season, leaving her post at Colgate University. The former Division I assistant coach takes the helm of the struggling, but improving, Hamilton team. The Continentals finished 3-7 in the NESCAC in 2016, an improvement over a 1-9 2015 mark. Last season, the Continentals had a 10-10 overall record, and look to break 0.500 for the first time since 2014 (15-12 overall). Baker was the team captain at SUNY University at Albany from 2003 to 2006, during which time she went to two Division I championships with the team. After graduation, Baker coached youth volleyball until 2008.

> "Coach Mariano is an awesome addition to our program. She has a lot of experience and has had a lot of success in the past, so I know we are all really excited to see what she can bring to the team."
>
> —*Anna Scutt '19 (field hockey)*

In 2008, Baker joined Colgate University as their assistant coach, where her husband, Ryan Baker, is the head coach. In her eight years at Colgate, Baker helped the Raiders achieve an impressive Patriot League record of 86-34. Seven of those seasons saw Colgate make appearances in the league championships, and in four of those, the Raiders made it to the league finals. The 2012 season was particularly impressive, as the Raiders won the league and thus the league's automatic bid to the NCAA championship. As Baker moves to the head coach position at Hamilton College, her fellow assistant coach at Colgate University, Derryk Williams, will move with her, staying on as assistant coach to the Continentals' team. The combined experience of Baker and Williams will hopefully prove to be the spark that will vault the volleyball team to a winning record.

Field hockey's first home game with Mariano as coach will be Wednesday, Sep. 6 at 7:00p.m. on Goodfriend Field. Baker's first home game with the Hamilton volleyball team will be Friday, Sep. 15 at 8:00p.m. in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Rowers gear up for fall season

from Rowing, page 16

Preparation for a bid to NCAA's in the spring is starting this fall. Our goal is to become one of the best DIII rowing programs out there."

The women's team historically has had more success than the men's team. Fred Pollevick '20 is very aware of that and wants the team to use it as motivation. When asked about men's goals for the season he said, "Our team goal is to begin making a name for ourselves as Hamilton men's rowing. Our women's team is a tremendous, well recognized program, and we want the same thing." Men's captains Harrison Potter '18 and Harry Thomas '18 shared the excitement for the upcoming season. When asked about expectations and goals they said, "We have a number of great recruits who we are excited to have on the team. For our first varsity eight, we're looking to build off of last year's successes and medal if not win the Head of the Genesee. For our other boats, we're looking to continue to develop and race our rising stars."

Sutor may have summed up the team's feeling going into the season the best. She said, "The returning team members have been training hard this summer to build upon what we made last year. Success will not come easy and we are ready to do what it takes to get there. We are a team of commitment, grit and tenacity. It is a real privilege to be in the boat with my teammates everyday."

PHOTO BY JADE THOMAS '20

Both rowing teams hope to capture early season hardware this October.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

August 31, 2017

New field hockey and volleyball coaches look to make immediate impact this fall

by Grace Myers '19
Staff Writer

Hamilton College Athletics, on the rise of late, looks to take further strides under the tutelage of new coaches for two women's teams — volleyball and field hockey. The 2017 season will see Melissa "Missy" Mariano at the helm of the field hockey team and Kristin Baker heading the coaching staff for volleyball.

Mariano inherited a strong field hockey team that went 12-5 overall last year and tied for second (with Middlebury and Trinity) in the NESCAC regular season standings for the 2016 season. Mariano is a NESCAC alumna herself: she participated in varsity field hockey, varsity golf and varsity alpine skiing while at Middlebury College from 2000 to 2004. As a varsity field hockey player, she took her team to the NESCAC finals in 2003 as their captain and led the Panthers to an incredible 19-1 record. She only acquired more accolades from there. Mariano became assistant coach of the field hockey team at William Smith College immediately after graduation. In the four years in which Mariano assistant coached, the team won four league titles.

Mariano continued her upward trajectory by heading the Division III field hockey program at Franklin & Marshall College in 2008. In her first season as head coach for Franklin & Marshall, the Diplomats struggled, posting only a 0.353 win percentage.

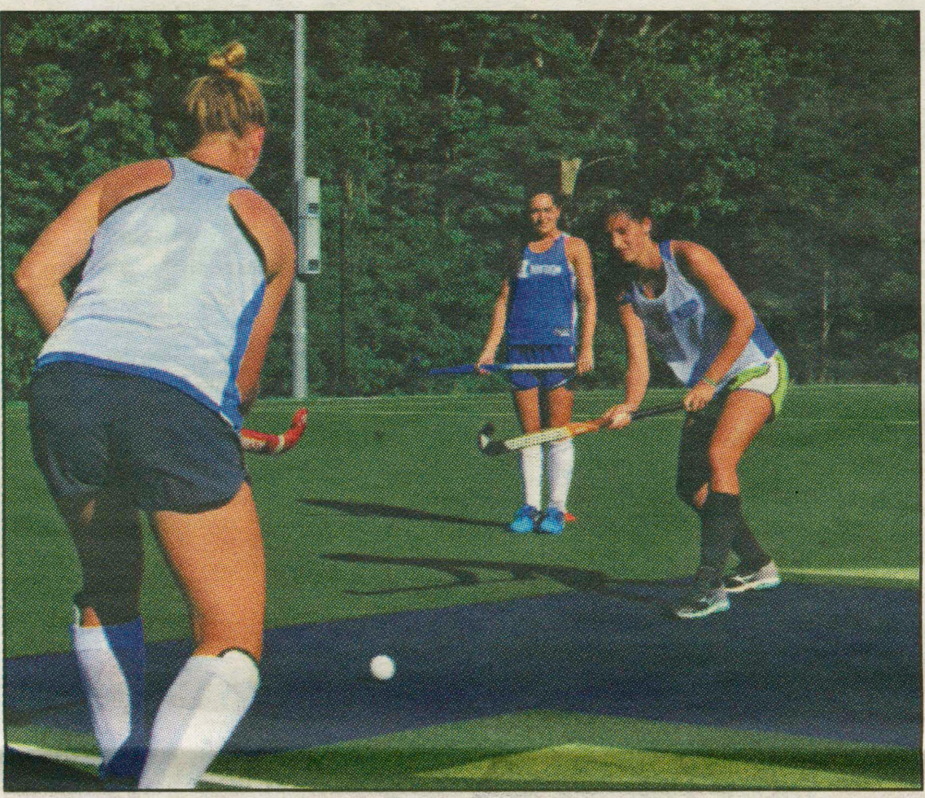

PHOTO BY ERIC LEE '18

New head coach Missy Mariano takes helm of field hockey team aiming for 2017 NESCAC title.

By just her fourth season, the field hockey team had an 18-4 record, and the team's win percentage did not drop below 0.750 for the next six seasons, a trend that the Diplomats surely hope to continue. In her nine seasons at F&M, the team won the Centennial Conference regular season title five times, won the conference title in 2012 and won 33 all-conference honors, in addition to a plethora of other accolades.

Defensewoman Anna Scutt '19 expressed the team's enthusiasm for the new coach, saying "Coach Mariano is an awesome addition to our program. She has a lot of experience and has had a lot of success in the past, so I know we are all really excited to see what she can bring to the team." The Hamilton program looks to capitalize on their momentum and recent playoff appearance. Scutt emphasized the importance of this particular season, describing how "Last season was a huge turning point for our team. Luckily, we have a lot of returners, so we are looking forward to building upon the success we had last year and having a strong presence in the NES-

see New Coaches, page 15

Rowing teams hope to build on successful 2016 campaigns in four-regatta fall season

by Robert Berk '20
Staff Writer

Another year at Hamilton College has arrived. While most students are settling in and hopefully enjoying a relaxing start to the fall, some are preparing for their athletic fall season. Both the men and women's crew teams have under a month to get ready for the start of their fall season. Both Continental teams have four races scheduled over the course of September and October.

Coach Rob Weber gained great experience this summer. Coach Weber, who coaches both the men and women's teams, coached the U.S. women's four at the U23 World Rowing Championships.

The women's team is looking to build on a strong showing last season. Last May the team came in 5th place out of the 7 NESCAC entries to the National Invitational Rowing Championships. They were ranked 10th in the final poll of the season. Hamilton had two rowers honored on the all-NESCAC teams. Ann-Sophie Koglin '20 earned second team for the women and Trent Pfeiffer '19 made second team on the men's side.

While students have only been on campus for just over a week, the team is not wasting any time. Sophomore coxswain Rachel Sutor '20 is very excited for the start of the season. When asked about it, she said, "At the first team meeting there was a palpable energy in the room. Everyone is feeling the incredible potential we have. Now it's time to harness it. We have some exciting new recruits, and I cannot wait to see them out on the water." It is a very promising year for the women's team. They did not graduate any seniors last year, therefore the new team members will have strong and experienced leaders to look up to and learn from. Sophomore rower, Elizabeth Foot '20, knows how important the first couple weeks are. When talking about the upcoming season and anticipation, she said, "We're all super excited for this season and [for] all the new freshmen to be here. We've all been working really hard this summer and so far this fall to be in the best position going into the fall race schedule." In the same conversation with Sutor, she explained why she believes the team will not become complacent based off last season's success. She elaborated and said, "we had a solid performance last year, but now we are ready to kick it up a notch."

see Rowing, page 15

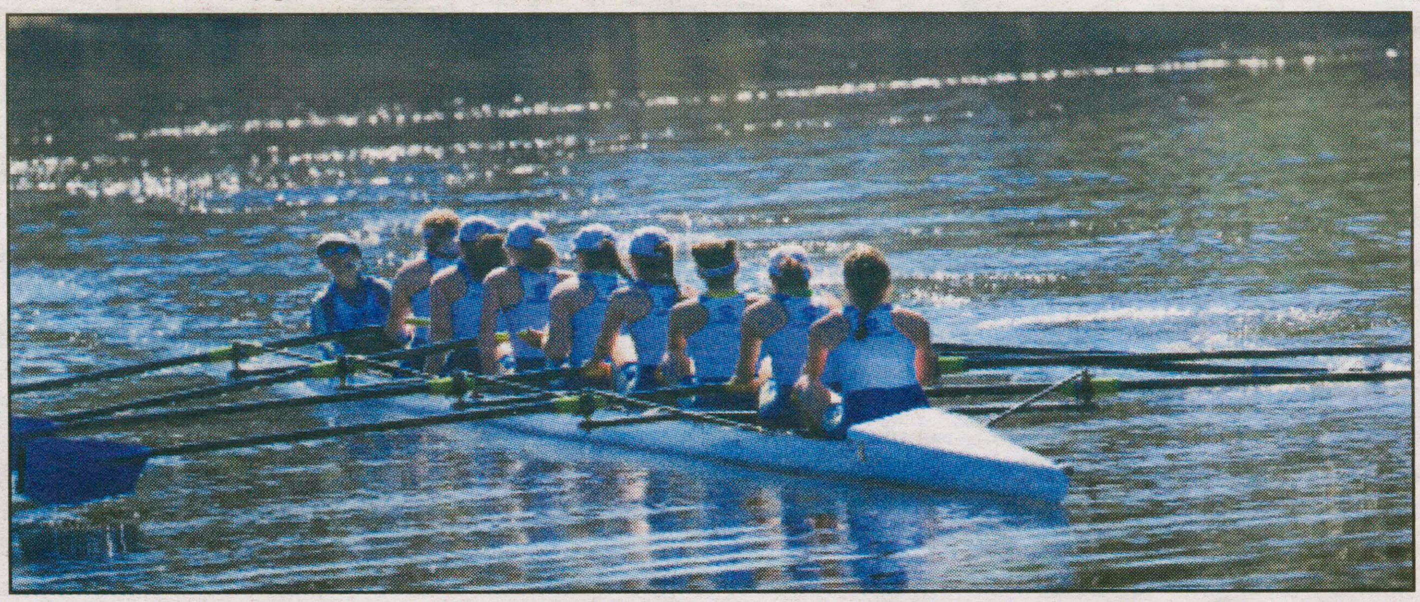

PHOTO BY JADE THOMAS '20

The Hamilton rowing teams will have a month to prepare before their first regatta on Oct. 1.